



NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Delta Regional Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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USDA TO GATHER DATA ON SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

Little Rock, AR – In July, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will reach out to soybean producers across the country to begin collecting information for the monthly *Crop Production* report. Each year the Soybean Objective Yield Survey monitors sample area of soybean fields during the growing season. By gathering data on soybean plants, pod count and weight, NASS can better determine the official estimate of soybean yield and production.

"In July, NASS representatives will contact selected producer in eleven major soybean producing states, I am proud that Arkansas is one of those states," said Becky Cross, Director of the NASS Delta Regional Office. Starting in July, an initial visit with the producer will consist of a brief interview to determine field production and to gain permission to enter the selected field. The survey will continue until after harvest, however these monthly visits will not require any time from the producer. In addition to regular monthly measurement, some fields will be sampled for inclusion in the post-harvest gleaning sample.

In Arkansas, NASS will survey approximately 250 soybean producers. By participating in the survey, soybean producers can ensure that NASS provides timely, accurate and objective data that all sectors of the U.S. soybean industry depend on to help make sound business decisions.

Information provided by respondents, for all NASS surveys, is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Survey results will be published in the monthly *Crop Production* Report, August through November 2014. Soybean final yield and production estimates will be published in the *Annual Crop Production* report in January 2015. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970.

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NASS provides accurate, timely, useful and objective statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. We invite you to provide occasional feedback on our products and services. Sign up at <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/subscriptions> and look for "NASS Data User Community."

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